

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----120237 260216Z /23

R 260121Z MAY 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1594
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 02140

EXDIS

E.O.11652:GDS
TAGS: PORG, MARR, UNSC, PLO, LE, IS, SY
SUBJECT: UNIFIL: UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL GUYER
REPORTS ON TRIP TO MIDDLE EAST

1. SUMMARY: UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL GUYER AND UN MIDDLE
EAST ADVISOR JONAH BRIEFED MAYNES, LEONARD, AND MISOFFS
MAY 26 ON THEIR RECENT VISIT TO BEIRUT, DAMASCUS AND
JERUSALEM. ARAFAT ASKED TO PERMIT FOODSTUFFS AND MEDI-
CINES TO BE SUPPLIED TO PALESTINIANS IN UN ZONE WHO
WERE THERE BEFORE ISRAELI INVASION. UN HAS AGREED TO
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ALLOW SUPPLIES OF FOOD ON STRICTLY AD HOC BASIS TO BE
SENT TO GROUP OF 16 PALESTINIANS IN NORWEGIAN SECTOR. UN
INTENDS TO MAINTAIN CLOSE CHECK ON NATURE OF THESE
SUPPLIES. END SUMMARY.

2. GUYER ON MAY 26 INVITED ASSISTANT SECRETARY MAYNES,
AMB. LEONARD AND MISOFFS FOR BRIEFING ON HIS TRIP TO

MIDDLE EAST EARLIER THIS WEEK. HE WAS ALSO BRIEFING SEPARATELY PLO REP TERZI AND LEBANESE AMB TUENI. GUYER SAID HIS SEPARATE MEETINGS WITH SARKIS, AL-HOSS, AND BOUTROS PRODUCED SIMILAR RESULTS SINCE HIS ARRIVAL WAS PRECEDED BY GOL CABINET MEETING. GOL OFFICIALS STRESSED THAT THE GOL CONSIDERS THE CAIRO AGREEMENT SUSPENDED OR IN ABEYANCE IN AREA OF UNIFIL OPERATIONS. AT SAME TIME, GOL LEADERS SAID THAT CHRISTIAN MILITIA IN SOUTH LEBANON MUST BE MADE INACTIVE AND CONFINED TO BARRACKS. SARKIS AND BOUTROS REITERATED THAT LEBANESE ARMY IS NOT ABLE TO TAKE UP DUTIES IN THE SOUTH. AL-HOSS SAID THE LEBANESE ARMY WOULD EITHER CLASH WITH HADDAD'S FORCES OR JOIN THEM. SARKIS COMMENTED THAT PLO WOULD ATTACK LEBANESE ARMY UNLESS THERE WERE EXPLICIT GUARANTEES.

3. THE MEETING IN DAMASCUS WITH FM KHADDAM MOVED FROM "ICICLES" TO CONSIDERABLE WARMTH AS GUYER AND JONAH EXPLAINED THAT UNIFIL HAD NO INTENTION OF UNDERTAKING ANY ACTIVITY NORTH OF THE LITANI, NOR OF ATTEMPTING TO EXERT PRESSURES TO BRING THE ADF SOUTH TO THE LITANI. THEY ALSO EXPLAINED UN POSITION THAT CAIRO AGREEMENT IS NOT MATTER FOR UN BUT BETWEEN GOL, PLO AND OTHER ARABS. KHADDAM TOOK POINT THAT UN WAS IN DILEMMA ON LOCATION OF UNIFIL HEADQUARTERS AT NAQOURA, SINCE THIS MEANT THAT HEADQUARTERS PERSONNEL HAD TO BE HOUSED IN ISRAEL AND UN IN EFFECT COULD BECOME THE CUSTODIAN OF THE "GOOD FENCE." CONFIDENTIAL

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DISCUSSIONS WITH FM KHADDAM AS WELL AS GOL OFFICIALS FAILED TO PRODUCE FEASIBLE SUGGESTIONS FOR AN ALTERNATIVE SITE.

4. GUYER DESCRIBED ARAFAT'S PROPOSITION (NO ARMED PALESTINIAN ELEMENTS PERMITTED TO ENTER UNIFIL AREA OF OPERATIONS, NO HOSTILE ACTS TO TAKE PLACE IN UNIFIL AREA, WHILE UNIFIL WOULD ALLOW AND CONTROL RESUPPLY OF NON-MILITARY ITEMS TO PALESTINIANS WHO HAD REMAINED IN UNIFIL AREA) AS NOT UNREASONABLE AND FACE-SAVING FOR ARAFAT. GUYER SAID ARAFAT IN THIS WAY DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE ABANDONING HIS SUPPORTERS.

5. ACCORDING TO UN OFFICIALS MAJOR ADVANTAGE OF ARAFAT'S PROPOSITION WOULD BE THAT IT WOULD PROTECT UN FROM CRITICISM FOR ALLOWING SIMILAR SUPPLY TO CHRISTIAN FORCES AFTER THE IDF WITHDRAWAL. MOREOVER, PALESTINIANS IN POCKETS WOULD BE CONTROLLABLE TO CERTAIN EXTENT THROUGH UNIFIL'S COOPERATION IN RESUPPLY. THERE WOULD PRESUMABLY BE NO SHOOTING FROM THESE POCKETS. ATTACKS ON NORTHERN ISRAEL IN ANY EVENT HAVE ORIGINATED EVEN BEFORE THE ISRAELI INVASION FOR THE MOST PART FROM ABOVE

THE LITANI.

6. TO MAYNES QUERIES ON NUMBERS OF PALESTINIANS WHO WOULD BE RESUPPLIED AND EXTENT OF ARMAMENTS, GUYER SAID THE NUMBERS UNIFIL NOW KNOW OF ARE RELATIVELY LOW, BUT THERE IS NO REAL ESTIMATE. THE PALESTINIAN ELEMENTS ARE GENERALLY MORE HEAVILY ARMED THAN UNIFIL.

7. CONTINUING ON QUESTION OF RESUPPLYING PALESTINIANS IN UNIFIL'S AREA OF OPERATIONS, JONAH SAID NORWEGIAN CONTINGENT COMMANDER HAD REQUESTED PERMISSION OF GEN. ERSKINE TO ALLOW RESUPPLY OF FOOD TO A GROUP OF 16 PALESTINIANS IN NORWEGIAN SECTOR. UNNY WAS INSTRUCTING ERSKINE TO GRANT PERMISSION ON STRICTLY AD HOC BASIS.
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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
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AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
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AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 02140

EXDIS

IN THIS CONNECTION IT WAS NOTED THAT MAY 24 GOL-PLO AGREEMENT (SEPTEL) APPEARED TO HAVE OVERTAKEN ARAFAT'S PROPOSAL TO GUYER, SINCE IT PROVIDES FOR ALLARMED ELEMENTS TO LEAVE SOUTH LEBANON. THIS HAD EASED MATTERS FOR THE UN, WHICH HAD DECIDED THAT ALL DECISIONS ON RE-SUPPLY OF PALESTINIANS IN UNIFIL AREA WOULD BE TAKEN ON AD HOC BASIS, PENDING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GOL-PLO AGREEMENT. THERE WOULD BE NO ULTIMATE COMMITMENT TO THE PLO IN THIS WAY. IN ANY EVENT, ACCORDING TO GUYER, THE UN LOOKS TO THE GOL AND NOT THE PLO FOR DECISIONS ON WHO SHOULD BE IN SOUTH LEBANON. GUYER CONCLUDED THAT
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HE BELIEVED HIS MISSION HAD BEEN USEFUL IN SETTING STAGE FOR GOL-PLO COMMUNIQUE (SEPTEL). YOUNG

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